

**CITY OF VIDOR
VIDOR CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 25, 2020**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Kelly Carder
Councilmember Angela Jordan
Councilmember Misty Songe
Councilmember Keith Buesing
Councilmember Gary Herrera
Councilmember Jane Hill

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Administrative Personnel: Robbie Hood, City Manager; Chris Leavins, City Attorney; Vicki Watson, City Secretary; Cheryl Ray, Supervisor of Finance & Accounting; and Rod Carroll, Chief of Police

A. OPENING, PRESENTATIONS, AND CITIZENS COMMENTS

A -1. Call to order and the establishment of a Quorum

A quorum was present, and the Regular Meeting of the Vidor City Council began at 7:00 p.m., Mayor Carder presiding.

A -2. Invocation and Pledge to the United States Flag and the State of Texas Flag

Rod Carroll, Chief of Police, gave the Invocation and led the Pledge to the United States Flag and the State of Texas Flag.

A -3. Citizen Comments

Carolyn Bandeaux, 825 Lamar, and her daughter, Virginia Janise, addressed Council regarding School House Ditch and the drainage problems on Lamar Street. Ms. Janise stated culverts have been paid for and were up to the standards at the time and spoke in opposition to opening up the culverts and concrete driveways.

B. COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA

B -1. Approval of Accounts Paid:

Paid Invoices:	General Fund – \$131,500.76
	Sanitation Fund – \$28,372.97
	Library Fund – \$2,129.02
	Juvenile Case Management – \$146.59
	Municipal Court Building Security Fund – \$33.10
	Emergency Management – \$158.68
	Hotel Occupancy – \$2,020.00
	Disaster Fund – \$10,341.00
	Employee Benefits Trust – \$59,045.48

B -2. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting – June 11, 2020

B -3. Ratification of the transfer of funds from Interest & Sinking 2013 General Obligation Refunding Bonds-Capital One Bank account to Interest & Sinking 2008/2016 General Obligation Refunding Bonds-TexPool account in the following amounts:

June 15, 2020: \$ 1,920.86
June 22, 2020: \$ 1,778.23

B -4. Ratification of the payment of the monthly sales tax in the amount of \$5,917.23 out of General Account/Pooled Cash

A motion was made by Councilmember Herrera, seconded by Councilmember Jordan, to **APPROVE THE COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED**. The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C. COUNCIL REGULAR AGENDA

C -1. Presentation by Discovery IT on use of Surface Go tablets

Brad Attaway, Discovery IT, gave Council an overview of the operation of the Surface Pro tablets that were purchased in 2019, and explained each tablet was assigned a username and password to log into the tablet. Cheryl Ray, Supervisor of Finance & Accounting, explained Councils' Office 365 passwords will get them into their email and Microsoft Teams.

C -2. Discussion of the schedule for adopting the 2020-2021 budget

Cheryl Ray, Supervisor of Finance & Accounting, briefly discussed the budget schedules in Council packets. Ms. Ray stated the new rules only allow a 3½% tax increase, but the old rules allowed an increase of up to 8%. Ms. Ray explained because of the disaster declaration, there is a special rule which allows us to use the old schedule. Ms. Ray stated this calendar is based on that assumption and keeps everything at regular meetings.

C -3. Consideration and possible approval of the 2020 Drainage Project

Michelle Falgout, Falgout Consulting, gave an overview of the three parts of the drainage project on Lamar. Ms. Falgout explained the first phase is cleaning out the boxes under Interstate 10. Ms. Falgout stated three have been cleaned out, and we are waiting on the fourth.

The second phase, Ms. Falgout explained, is adding a 36" pipe at the rear drive behind Market Basket. Ms. Falgout stated Chris (Leavins, City Attorney) has finished the easement documents, and we are waiting for Crossroads to sign.

Ms. Falgout stated the third phase involves removing all existing RCP (reinforced concrete pipe) in all closed-in ditches and replacing with open ditches. Ms. Falgout stated because the current ditches are not real deep and the pipes are not very far from the surface, this will be a more effective way for storm water to get into the boxes. Ms. Falgout explained some yards do not even have surface inlets, so the water has to get over the road to get to an inlet on the other side.

Ms. Falgout discussed the size and slopes of the ditches and stated we are very cognizant of the issues with taking the drains and pipes out of people's yards and to help compensate, we will be providing the property owners with 27' driveways (an extra 10'), where possible, to allow more parking in the driveway. Ms. Falgout stated we will also allow for a 5' shoulder to allow for parking and to protect the road.

Ms. Falgout reviewed the projected costs for the remainder of the project (\$313K) and explained it fits nicely in the budget. Discussion ensued regarding the expected timeline, the discovery of a second fiber optic line, School House Ditch, and the current elevation from Lowe down to the 36" pipe.

Robbie Hood, City Manager, explained these problems were inherited and take time to address. Mr. Hood stated this is a very important piece of the puzzle, and we all have to sacrifice some things.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jordan, seconded by Councilmember Hill, **to approve the 2020 Drainage Project**. The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C -4. Consideration and possible action to approve a Resolution authorizing a permit to be issued for a private lake / pond to be located at 340 Lawrence, Vidor, Texas

Mark Thompson, 345 Lawrence, explained he currently lives across the street, but he and his wife want to downsize. Mr. Thompson stated the dirt will be used for a house pad and there will be a fence around the whole property. Mr. Thompson explained he retired from Entergy/Gulf States, so he understands how it is dealing with the public and complemented the City on the work being done.

Chris Leavins, City Attorney, explained the Ordinance requires consent of property owners within 100' and stated at the last meeting, there was some missing information including proof of ownership, names within 100' and the dimensions of the pond. Mr. Leavins stated the Thompsons have met all the requirements off the Ordinance.

Councilmember Songe moved **to approve Resolution 924 authorizing the permit**, and Councilmember Herrera seconded. The Council voted five (5) for and none opposed. The motion carried.

C -5. Consideration and possible action to approve a Resolution approving and authorizing the execution of a contract with SPI for engineering services for Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery, Contract No. 20-065-120-C407

Chris Leavins, City Attorney, explained this was brought to Council two weeks ago, but it was a bit premature. Mr. Leavins explained Mr. Jordan with SPI (Schaumburg & Polk, Inc.) has provided everything needed to proceed. Cheryl Ray, Supervisor of Finance & Accounting, stated this is the five-million-dollar grant.

A motion was made by Councilmember Buesing, seconded by Councilmember Songe, **to approve the Resolution approving the contract**. The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C -6. Report regarding the opening of the City pool

Krista Powell introduced herself to Council and explained she is the new Pool Manager as of last Monday (*June 15th*). Ms. Powell explained per the State, we can open at 50% capacity, but that is not going to happen right now. Ms. Powell stated she and Romeo (*Lingad, Street/Drainage/Parks Supervisor*) decided to limit the number to 20 because one lifeguard can watch 25 swimmers. Ms. Powell explained she started with nine lifeguards, but that number started dropping off. Ms. Powell stated two of the guards have other jobs, and there were seven scheduled to take the test which was held today from 9:00AM to 3:00PM, but two were no-shows and two did not pass.

Ms. Powell explained she has to have a minimum four lifeguards (one on the stand, one at first aid, one on break, and one in the concession stand). Ms. Powell stated they had originally planned to open on July 4th, but two of the lifeguards will not be in town, so that is not going to happen.

Robbie Hood, City Manager, reviewed the criteria outlined in the packets and discussed the two-hour timeslots which would allow thirty minutes in between each slot for cleaning. Mr. Hood explained the pool

will also close an hour earlier than usual to allow for a thorough cleaning at the end of the day. Mr. Hood explained the motor is currently working perfectly, but Romeo has a backup motor and a plan ready in case there are problems going forward. Mr. Hood commended Ms. Powell for her hard work.

C -7. Consideration and possible action to approve AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF VIDOR, TEXAS AMENDING THE VIDOR CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING CHAPTER 21 – EMERGENCY SERVICES, ARTICLE II. – EMERGENCY AND NONEMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICES, REGARDING CAAS CERTIFICATION AND PERMITTING OF AMBULANCES ON THE CITY; PROVIDING FOR A REPEALING CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Chris Leavins, City Attorney, stated the only change made, as discussed, was the removal of the CAAS certification. Mr. Leavins stated the rotor-wing requirement was left in there.

A motion was made by Councilmember Herrera **to approve the Ordinance**, and Councilmember Buesing, seconded. ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilmember Jordan, aye; Councilmember Songe, nay; Councilmember Buesing, aye; Councilmember Herrera, aye; and Councilmember Hill, aye. The Council voted four (4) for and one (1) opposed. The motion carried. *(Since the vote was not unanimous, it will require a second reading at the next meeting.)*

C -8. Consideration and possible approval of AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF VIDOR, TEXAS, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING CHAPTER 70 – TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES REGARDING RENAMING OF CHAPTER TO INCLUDE PEDESTRIANS AND CREATION OF ARTICLE VII. – PEDESTRIANS TO ADDRESS PEDSTRIAN TRAFFIC AND MOVEMENT ON PUBLIC ROADWAYS; PROVIDING FOR A REPEALING CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Chris Leavins, City Attorney, explained this is listed as a normal agenda action item, but it is just a draft. Mr. Leavins discussed the potential change recommended by Chief Carroll which would that require safety equipment be visible from 100' to allow drivers time to react. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Leavins explained this is the first draft and presentation, and he can bring it back with that one change. No action was taken.

C -9. Consideration of Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilmember Songe, seconded by Councilmember Buesing, for **Consideration of Adjournment**. The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried, and the Regular Meeting of the Vidor City Council adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

These minutes approved July 9, 2020.



Kelly Carder, Mayor

ATTEST:



Vicki Watson, City Secretary